

Swann, Pam

From: jhensinger@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 05, 2006 2:28 PM
To: DocketClerk, MOAB
Subject: UglyRipe Tomato

Docket Clerk,

I have lived in Colorado for thirty five years. In that time, I have eaten only a few dozen store bought ripe tomatoes that didn't taste like cardboard and weren't hard enough to play handball with. When I traveled to Iowa on business, I often brought back a briefcase full of roadside tomatoes.

We have lost sight of one of the true joys of summer in the Mid-West. I grew up in Indiana. Our garden grown tomatoes were so ripe that if they happened to roll off the kitchen counter they would splat when they hit the floor. They were juicy enough to soak the bread in a sandwich. Sometimes we would actually take a salt shaker out to the garden and eat sun warmed tomatoes that we picked by tickling their bottoms. If they dropped into our hand, we knew they were ripe.

It is sad to see our government judging tomato quality on all of the wrong criteria. Firmness in a tomato is bad. Solid flesh in a tomato is bad. Bland cardboard taste in a tomato is bad.

Please consider allowing the distribution of the UglyRipe tomato in Colorado. I now resent paying \$4.00 per pound (year around price), and often don't. For \$4.00 a pound, I should get a tasty product.

Thank you.

James Speed Hensinger
JHensinger@comcast.net
Web: <http://JHensinger.home.comcast.net/>